

# Scoping Studies Overview and Summary of Resources



## What is a Scoping Study?

A form of knowledge synthesis that addresses an exploratory research question aimed at mapping key concepts, types of evidence, and gaps in research related to an emerging field by systematically and iteratively searching, selecting, summarizing and synthesizing existing knowledge.

## When would you do a Scoping Study?

To examine the extent, range and nature of research activity.

To examine a range of study designs from published and grey literature.

To determine the value of conducting a systematic review.

To synthesize and disseminate research findings.

To identify gaps in research.



## Next Steps for Advancing Scoping Study Methodology

Establishing a universal definition and terminology that incorporates key characteristics

Establishing a taxonomy to place scoping studies among other forms of synthesis.

Establishing reporting guidelines



## For More Information - Scoping Resources

[Arksey & O'Malley, 2005 - Scoping Studies Framework](#)

[Levac et al 2010 - Advancing the Methodology](#)

[Colquhoun et al 2014 - Scoping Reviews: Time for Clarity](#) **#Scoping2015**

[Peters et al 2015 - Methodology for Scoping Reviews \(Briggs Institute\)](#)

[Tricco et al 2016 - Scoping Review on the Conduct and Reporting of Scoping Reviews](#)

[Pham et al 2014 - Scoping Review of Scoping Reviews](#)

[O'Brien et al 2016 - Web-based Survey and Consultation on Scoping Study Terminology, Definition and Methodological Steps](#)



## Scoping Meeting

In June 2015 we held a multi-stakeholder consultation with 48 clinicians, academics, graduate students and representatives from the community in Canada, USA, and the UK. For more information:

**[Scoping Meeting Report \(2015\)](#)**

<http://bit.ly/1QHgBnr>

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